

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – April 5, 2021

The meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Lower, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey was held on April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township Hall, 2600 Bayshore Road, Villas, New Jersey.

The Clerk announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided according to law.

The following members of Council were present for roll call taken by the Clerk:

Councilmember Thomas Conrad
Councilmember Kevin Coombs, via telephone
Councilmember Roland Roy, Jr.
Deputy Mayor David Perry
Mayor Frank Sippel

Also present: Michael Laffey, Township Manager, David Stefankiewicz, Township Solicitor and Karen Fournier, Deputy Township Clerk

Work Session

Budget Hearing – Leon Costello, Municipal Auditor, explained that the Budget Hearing can still take place, but because the state has not established the rules for using the stimulus money, he advised not approving the budget until further notice. He anticipates it being ready for adoption in two weeks, at which time it will require a resolution to amend, and then it can be adopted on the same agenda.

Res. #2021-124 Approval of 2021 Budget
MOTION TO TABLE BUDGET APPROVAL

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY		X	X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes – March 15, 2021

Res. #2021-125 Authorization for the Payment of Vouchers \$849,363.27

Res. #2021-126 Amend Resolution #2021-08; Professional Service Contract with Lauren Suit as the Public Information Officer (\$3,360)

Res. #2021-127 Authorizing the Payout of Terminal Leave (K.McVey \$1,608.08)

Res. #2021-128 Authorization for Refund of Taxes

Res. #2021-129 A Resolution Authorizing Increases for Non Union Employees (E.Kreis/S.Wilson)

Res. #2021-130 Approval of Contribution to the Coast Guard Community Foundation (\$1,000)

Res. #2021-131 Issuance of 2021 Limousine and Operator Licenses

Res. #2021-132 Click It or Ticket 2021 Seat Belt Mobilization

Res. #2021-133 A Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of Cops in Shops Funding Summer Shore Initiative 2021

Res. #2021-134 Authorizing the Sale of Township of Lower Surplus No Longer Needed for Public Use on GOVDEALS Online Auction

Ordinance #2021-09 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 90, Police Department, of the Code of the Township of Lower, Enacting Article IV in Order to Establish a Police Chaplain Program for the Lower Township Police Department – This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and public hearing have been scheduled for May 3, 2021

Ordinance #2021-10 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 552, Smoking, of the Code of the Township of Lower, to Prohibit Individuals from Smoking Marijuana in Public Places Throughout the Township. This is the first reading of this Ordinance. The second reading and public hearing have been scheduled for May 3, 2021

James Sanford, Diamond Beach, asked how Ordinance #2021-10 will affect private beaches.

Solicitor Stefankiewicz explained.

Mayor Sippel agreed to look further into the matter.

On the Consent:

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY	X		X				
SIPPEL			X				

Regular Agenda

Res. #2021-135 Resolution for Self-Examination of Budget

MOTION TO TABLE

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Res. #2021-136 Resolution for Emergency Temporary Appropriations

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Ordinance #2021-04 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 600, Towing and Storage Area Requirements, Specifically Subsection 5 E (4), Towing and Storage Area Requirements; Performance Standards, of the Code of the Township of Lower This is the second reading and Pubic Hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD		X	X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY	X		X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Ordinance #2021-05 An Ordinance of the Township of Lower Amending Chapter 157, Alcoholic Beverages, Subsection 157-6(D) (1), of the Code of the Township of Lower This is the second reading and Pubic Hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY	X		X				
SIPPEL			X				

Ordinance #2021-06 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 432, Mercantile Licenses, Specifically Subsection 4, Annual Fees For Mercantile Licenses, of the Code of the Township of Lower, To Modify Existing Annual Licensing and Registration Fees This is the second reading and Public Hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Ordinance #2021-07 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 570, Solid Waste, Specifically Subsection 15, Scrapping, of the Code of the Township of Lower, To Modify Annual Licensing and Registration Fees This is the second reading and Public Hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD			X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY			X				
PERRY		X	X				
SIPPEL	X		X				

Ordinance #2021-08 An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 575, Stormwater Management, of the Code of the Township of Lower This is the second reading and Public Hearing of this Ordinance. This Ordinance has been published, posted and made available to the public.

	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	RECUSE	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONRAD	X		X				
COOMBS			X				
ROY		X	X				
PERRY			X				
SIPPEL			X				

Manager's Report

Manager Laffey gave Council an update on County Road repairs including Bayshore Road and Townbank Road. He also discussed his meeting with DOT regarding Schellenger's Landing traffic calming measures.

Public Comment

Mayor Sippel gave a brief reminder of Resolution #2021-43, establishing the rules and regulations governing public comment period.

Bill Greenfield, Villas, thanked Public Works for the improvements to the beach path on New Jersey Avenue.

James Sanford, Diamond Beach, addressed Mayor Sippel regarding response time for EMS services to Diamond Beach. Mayor Sippel stated that he will address EMS services during Council Comments.

Council Comments

Councilmember Conrad commented on flooding issues on Cloverdale, Spruce and Evergreen Avenues and informed of road closures on Breakwater Road. He gave an update on the Foster House and reminded residents to stay safe.

Councilmember Coombs echoed Councilmember Conrad's comments.

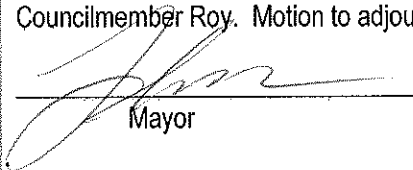
Councilmember Roy commented on flooding issues along Shunpike and Breakwater Roads and assured that the township is working on rectifying the problem. He also reminded residents to be cautious of children at play.

Deputy Mayor Perry – no comments

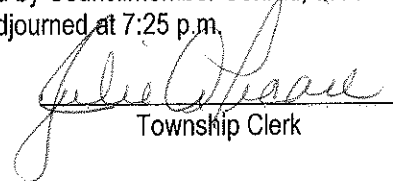
Mayor Sippel gave an update on several matters including: the RFP for EMS services to the Township, the Township Newsletter, Youth Camp, Summer Concert Series, Independence Day Fireworks, Covid-19 Vaccinations and Clean-up Day along the bayfront.

Adjournment

There being no further business to address, motion to adjourn moved by Councilmember Conrad, seconded by Councilmember Roy. Motion to adjourn was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Mayor



Township Clerk

Approved: April 19, 2021